

**MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF FOOD & AGRICULTURE  
150 YEARS OLD**

**CALENDAR**

**MASSACHUSETTS PESTICIDE EXAM SCHEDULE**

UMASS Eastern Extension Center—240 Beaver St., Waltham

**MAY 10.** Deadline for submitting application is **MAY 3.**

**MAY 17.** Deadline for submitting application is **MAY 10.**

Cape Cod Community College—Rte. 132, 2240 Ivanough Rd., Barnstable

**MAY 21.** Deadline for submitting application is **MAY 14.**

**QUESTIONS CALL—617-626-1785.**

**BEEKEEPING WORKSHOP**

Walpole, N.H.

**MAY 11. CALL—603-756-9056**

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**ADVISORY COMMITTEE FINDS USDA RECEPTIVE**

By Tom Karst

Seeking industry dividends from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's momentum in promoting fruits and vegetables, the first meeting of the 23-member Fruit and Vegetable Industry Advisory Committee concluded with broad recommendations and a commitment to further study issues and solutions.

The April 16-17 meeting, hosted by Bob Keeney, deputy administrator for fruit and vegetable programs of the Agricultural Marketing Service, took place at the USDA's South Building.

Secretary of Agriculture Ann Veneman visited the group briefly the morning of April 16. She had named the industry advisory committee, each serving two-year terms, in February from a field of 179 nominations.

"Everybody came to Washington to work," said Maureen Torrey Marshall, the elected chairwoman of the group and vice president of sales for Torrey Farms Inc., Elba, N.Y.

"We know we are a pioneer group and what we do and how we shape the committee is going to have a big impact for years to come," she said.

Committee vice chairwoman Karen Caplan, president of Frieda's Inc., Los Alamitos, Calif., said the attention and presence of USDA officials at the committee was impressive.

"I was actually surprised how interested and receptive USDA officials were in the real opinions from the industry," Caplan said. "I really got the feeling that the advice we give is going directly to Secretary Veneman."

A highlight of those was an address by Steven Christensen, acting director for the Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion, who spoke about the new memorandum of understanding between the USDA and Health and Human Services to promote 5 a Day in the fight against obesity.

Leanne Skelton, acting chief of the fresh products branch of AMS, gave an update on the fresh inspection program and an outline of possible fee increases.

The advisory committee voted on the approved recommendations and statements to Veneman April 17, several of which addressed the issue of fruit and vegetable consumption.

One of those statements to Veneman expressed appreciation for the USDA's memorandum of understanding related to its commitment to participate in the 5 a Day campaign. The committee also urged the USDA to allocate its budget to reflect the importance of fruits and vegetables.

Another recommendation was a stronger advocate role by the USDA in regulations that affect the fruit and vegetable industry. Creating more incentives in the food stamp program for fruits and vegetables was another action point, and the advisory committee also urged pilot programs to explore more effective delivery systems of USDA-purchased fresh fruits and vegetables to the state warehouses.

The committee recognized the value of the destination inspection service but gave the secretary no immediate advice on the timing and structure of future fee increases.

The committee formed working groups in the following areas:

- Food safety, which includes a look at third-party audits, microbiological testing and traceability issues.

- Domestic promotion of fruits and vegetables.
- Inspection services and market news.
- The North American Free Trade Agreement and trade issues.
- Regulatory issues.
- Country-of-origin labeling.

(Article from *THE PACKER*, April 22, 2002)

#### APPLE SHIPMENT TRACKING

Source: USDA

Amounts are shown in units of 10,000 pounds

Season Begins	04/14/02- 04/20/02	04/07/02- 04/13/02	04/15/01- 04/21/01	Total this season 04/20/02	Total last season 04/21/01
SEPTEMBER	9,267	9,354	10,594	314,549	364,004

#### MID-WEEK F.O.B. PRICES AT MASSACHUSETTS COUNTRY SHIPPING POINT

Prices and grades received by telephone, MAY 7, 2002

##### Controlled Atmosphere

VARIETY	GRADE	SIZE	PRICE
<b>McINTOSH</b>	Cartons Cell Pack U.S. Extra Fancy	80s	<b>19.00</b>
		96s	<b>18.50</b>
	Cartons Film Bags U.S. Fancy	12-3s 2-1/2" min	<b>12.50</b>
	Cartons Tote Bags U.S. Fancy	8-5s 2-1/2" min	<b>14.00</b>
<b>EMPIRE</b>	Cartons Cell Pack U.S. Extra Fancy	80s	<b>18.00</b>
		96s	<b>17.50</b>
	Cartons Film Bags U.S. Fancy	12-3s 2-1/2" min	<b>11.50</b>
	Cartons Tote Bags U.S. Fancy	8-5s 2-1/2" min	<b>13.00</b>
<b>RED DELICIOUS</b>	Cartons Tray Pack U.S. Extra Fancy	80s & 88s	<b>13.50</b>
	Cartons Film Bags U.S. Fancy	12-3s 2-1/2" min	<b>11.00</b>
	Cartons Tote Bags U.S. Fancy	8-5s 2-1/2" min	<b>13.00</b>

#### FEDERAL MARKET NEWS SERVICE, EVERETT, MASS.

MAY 6, 2002

Controlled Atmosphere

**NO CHANGES**

<b>NEW ENGLAND</b>			
<b>McINTOSH</b>	Cartons Cell Pack U.S. Extra Fancy	80s & 96s	<b>18.00</b>
		100s	<b>20.00-21.50</b>
		120s	<b>15.00</b>
	Cartons Cell Pack U.S. Fancy	80s & 96s	<b>11.00-12.00</b>
	Cartons Cell Pack U.S. No. 1	80s	<b>12.00</b>
		100s	<b>9.00- 9.50</b>
		120s	<b>10.00-11.00</b>
		140s	<b>9.00-10.00</b>
	Cartons Film Bags U.S. No. 1	12-3s 2-1/4" min	<b>10.00-11.00</b>
<b>CORTLAND</b>	Cartons Cell Pack U.S. No. 1	72s	<b>15.00</b>
		80s	<b>12.00-15.00 mostly 15.00</b>
	Cartons Film Bags U.S. Fancy	12-3s 2-1/4" min	<b>15.00-16.00</b>

<b>GOLDEN DELICIOUS</b>	Cartons Cell Pack U.S. Extra Fancy	80s & 88s	<b>20.00</b>
<b>ROME</b>	Cartons Cell Pack U.S. Extra Fancy	64s	<b>20.00</b>
	Cartons Film Bags U.S. No. 1	12-3s 2-1/2" min	<b>12.00</b>
<b>SHIPPED IN</b>			
<b>McINTOSH</b>	NY Hudson Valley Ctns CelPk U.S. ExFcy	80s & 100s	<b>19.00-21.00 mostly 20.00</b>
	Lake Champlain Ctns CelPk U.S. ExFcy	80s	<b>24.00</b>
		100s	<b>23.00</b>
	NY Hudson Valley Ctns CelPk U.S. No. 1	80s	<b>11.00</b>
		100s	<b>10.00</b>
		120s	<b>9.50</b>
	NY Hudson Valley Ctns FlmBg U.S. ExFcy	12-3s 2-1/4" min	<b>10.00</b>
<b>EMPIRE</b>	NY Hudson Valley Ctns CelPk U.S. ExFcy	88s	<b>16.00</b>
		100s	<b>15.00</b>
	NY Hudson Valley Ctns FlmBg U.S. ExFcy	12-3s 2-1/2" min	<b>9.00</b>
		12-3s 2-1/4" min	<b>9.00</b>
<b>RED DELICIOUS</b>	NY Hudson Valley Ctns TryPk U.S. ExFcy	80s	<b>15.00</b>
		88s	<b>14.00</b>
	Western Section Ctns TryPk U.S. ExFcy	80s	<b>16.00</b>
		88s	<b>15.00</b>
		100s	<b>13.50</b>
	WA Cartons Tray PackI WAExFcy	64s	<b>16.00-17.00 fine appear. 19.00-21.00 mostly 20.00</b>
		72s, 80s, 88s	<b>16.00-17.00 fine appear. 19.00-21.00 mostly 20.00-21.00</b>
		100s	<b>16.00-17.00 fine appear. 18.00-20.00</b>
		113s	<b>16.00-17.00</b>
		125s	<b>15.00-18.00 mostly 16.00-18.00</b>
<b>GOLDEN DELICIOUS</b>	WA Cartons Tray Pack WAExFcy	64s	<b>25.00-27.00</b>
		72s	<b>25.00-27.00 mostly 26.00</b>
		80s	<b>23.00-24.00 mostly 24.00</b>
		88s	<b>24.00-24.50</b>
		100s	<b>22.00</b>
		113s & 125s	<b>18.00</b>
	WA Cartons Cell Pack WAExFcy	80s	<b>26.00-27.50</b>
		96s	<b>24.00-25.50</b>
<b>ROME</b>	NY Hudson Valley Ctns CelPk U.S. ExFcy	80s	<b>15.00</b>
	NY Hudson Valley Ctns FlmBg U.S. ExFcy	12-3 2-1/2" min	<b>9.00-10.00</b>

RED ROME	PA Cartons Cell Psack U.S. ExFcy	80s	15.00
CRISPIN	NY Hudson Valley Ctns CelPk U.S. ExFcy	56s	15.00
		72s	16.00
		80s	15.00
ROYAL GALA	WA Cartons Tray Pack WAExFcy	88s	28.00
FUJI	PA Cartons Tray Pack U.S. ExFcy	100s	19.00
	WA Cartons Tray Pack WAExFcy	56s	22.00-24.00
		64s & 80s	23.00-25.00
		88s	22.00-25.00 mostly 24.00
		100s	21.00-22.00
	Western Section Ctns FlmBg U.S. ExFcy	12-3s 2-1/2" min	13.00
JONAGOLD	WA Cartons Tray Pack WAExFcy	80s	22.00
CAMEO	WA Cartons Tray Pack WAExFcy	72s	24.00-25.00
		80s	22.00-24.00
		88s	24.00-24.50
BRAEBURN	WA Cartons Tray Pack WAExFcy	80s	24.00
		88s	24.50
PINK LADY	WA Cartons Tray pack WAExFcy	80s	34.00
GRANNY SMITH	WA Cartons Tray Pack WAExFcy	64s & 72s	26.00-28.00 mostly 27.00
		80s	24.00-27.00 mostly 25.00-26.00
		88s	23.00-25.00 mostly 23.00-24.00
		100s	19.00-21.00 mostly 20.00
		113s	18.00-19.00
		125s	17.50-18.00
	WA Cartons Tray Pack WAExFcy	12-3s 2-1/2" min	16.00-17.50
CIDER	New England Preserved Cartons	4-1 gallon bottles	9.00- 9.40 mostly 9.00
		9 ½-gallon bottles	10.00 best 11.25
Howard Vinton, Editor			

